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TOP SECRET

24 August 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Science & Technology)

1. Colonel Geary called on me today at his request and again brought up the subject of contractual and security responsibilities for the R-12 and AF-12 programs. For many reasons he is still strongly opposed to any change in existing arrangements. Among these reasons are the following:

    a. He feels that the security of OXCART will be prejudiced by any manipulations now;

    b. He feels that any such change will place the contractor right in the middle between programs operated by different agencies and competing for contractor interest.

2. He thinks that a number of steps can be taken which will perhaps help toward ultimate transfer, such as (a) make all of the existing non-CIA contracts white at an appropriate time, and (b) make many of the service contracts overt at an appropriate time. He feels that definitely the Pratt & Whitney and Lockheed contracts should continue black through FY '66 at which time the program would be pretty well closed out.

3. In any event, he points out that the Air Forces by law must contract on a commitment basis and this would mean, in FY '65 alone, [   ] which is presently not available or funded anywhere.

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4. I of course made no commitment of any kind but indicated that since I had been away for two weeks and had not discussed the matter with the Director, I would pass these views to the staff and await the Director's return.

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5. In view of the foregoing, I request that the attached memorandum for the Director, NRO, not be dispatched until you have had a chance to talk with me and we have buttoned up all possible loose ends.

Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

Attachment:
    Memo for D/NRO from Dr. Wheelon dated 24 August 1964,
    Subject: Contractual and Security Responsibilities for R-12
    and AF-12 Programs

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Distribution:
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